

### **Abstract**

A method of forwarding payload data units in a virtual networking environment is presented. The method enables a data switching node to separate public access data traffic from private access data traffic. The method further assigns a predefined level of service to public access data traffic. The advantages lie in enabling a multi-port data network node to convey both public and private data traffic with assistance from management software. Improperly configured network devices connected to public access points, whether intentionally or unintentionally, are prevented from affecting data transport performance of the data networking environment in which they participate.